Leicester, February 16. 1836.

My dear Sir,

I received yesterday the Report of the Mass. Anti-S. Society, which you were kind enough to send me. With all my heart, I thank you for it - I have read it with very great pleasure. I wish much to know its author; - I cannot bring myself to think that I am so little acquainted with your style as not to recognise it to be yours; if it be yours, your style of writing has altered a good deal, within a year. - It is, by whomsoever written, an admirable production; - it is courteous, it is very mild & affectionate, and it is 'very courageous.' - I have already loaned it - & shall circulate it all I can.

I want much to see you. In the Worcester Spy of Feb. 3d, it was announced that you, with others, were expected to be at Millbury on the 9th, to attend the meeting at which it was proposed to form & organize an Anti-S. Society for the South part of this County. We heard besides, by letter from Boston, that you were coming; - and therefore I was confidently expecting, all last week, to see you here; for

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you recollect you said that, when you came into this neighborhood, you should come to Leicester. – I should, probably, have been at Millbury, had it been possible to get there; but the immensely heavy fall of snow, the day previous, rendered the roads dangerous of passage.

Mr. Willson was here from Brooklyn, a few weeks since. – Recollecting well the anxiety you felt, with regard to Mr. John Gray, I made, privately, inquiry concerning the affair. Perhaps, since I saw you, you have had further accounts. – Mr. W. stated that the affair was not so bad as it appeared at first; – that Mr. G. had been led away by others – further, that he (Mr. G.) did not violate any pledge he had ever given on the subject, having confined himself to the use of <u>wine</u>; – further, that being now ashamed of his folly, he had given a new promise to some of his friends, which excluded, <u>wine</u>. – I hope, my dear sir, the event will be better than your fears.

I have been greatly grieved to hear of the emigration from Brooklyn; not only Mr. Herb't. Williams is

to leave, but Mr. Jno. Williams has pretty much, I am told, come to the determination to go Westward, as soon as circumstances will permit. - Mr. Perrin Scarborough (~~about~~ whom I do not know much) has gone, & is on the point of going; - which, doubtless you know. - To-day I was told by Mr. Nelson (who said "he didn't know but he was betraying a ~~Secret~~ telling Secret" - though I ~~am~~ violate no confidence in ~~telling~~ it to you) that Dr. Whitcomb intended joining the company of emigrants, to which Mr. Herbt. W. belongs. - I hate to be the bearer of bad news; - but, knowing this, I think it but right to inform you of it.

Shall you not come & see us soon? - Pray write me, when you can command the time, & let me know if you were at Millbury, & what was done there. - (this, though, I shall doubtless learn from the papers.)

Remember me, affectionately, to your wife -

And believe me,

Truly & affectionately

Yours

Sam'l. May Jr.

Rev. S. J. May.

Boston.

Care, Saml. May Esq.

Concord Mass
Feb. 16. 1836

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